

KEY UPDATES — A SUMMARY

Annual vaccination is the most important measure to prevent influenza and its complications. It is recommended for all people ≥ 6 months of age.

All vaccinations must be recorded on the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR).

During the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been reduced circulation of influenza virus and lower levels of influenza vaccine coverage compared with previous years. With borders reopening, a resurgence of influenza is expected in 2022.

All COVID-19 vaccines can be co-administered (given on the same day) with an influenza vaccine.

For adults aged ≥ 65 years, the adjuvanted influenza vaccine, Flud[®] Quad, is preferentially recommended over standard influenza vaccine. There is no preference for use between either Flud[®] Quad or Fluzone High-Dose Quadrivalent in this age group. If a person had a 2021 influenza vaccine in late 2021 or early 2022, they are still recommended to receive a 2022 formulation of influenza vaccine when it becomes available (likely from March 2022).

USEFUL RESOURCES

Immunisation team, Public Health Services

Call 1800 671 738, press option 3 then option 1

Clinical guidance

Australian Immunisation Handbook: [Influenza \(flu\) | The Australian Immunisation Handbook \(health.gov.au\)](https://www.health.gov.au/australian-immunisation-handbook)

ATAGI Statement on the Administration of Seasonal Influenza Vaccines in 2022: [ATAGI advice on seasonal influenza vaccines in 2022 | Australian Government Department of Health](https://www.health.gov.au/atagi-advice-on-seasonal-influenza-vaccines-in-2022)

Tas DoH influenza vaccine - provider toolkit: [Tasmanian influenza immunisation provider toolkit | Tasmanian Department of Health](https://www.health.tas.gov.au/tasmanian-influenza-immunisation-provider-toolkit)

NCIRS Influenza Fact sheets and FAQ: [Influenza vaccines for Australians - FAQs | NCIRS](https://www.ncirs.gov.au/influenza-vaccines-for-australians-faqs)

Safety, side effect profile

AusVaxSafety: [Influenza vaccines | AusVaxSafety](https://www.ausvaxsafety.gov.au/influenza-vaccines)

Influenza epidemiology

FluTas report: [fluTAS reports | Tasmanian Department of Health](https://www.health.tas.gov.au/flu-tas-reports)